



## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Number: 0601042

June 1, 2004



Col. Mike Clay says farewell to Soldiers and guests at the Area III change of command June 1 at Camp Humphreys.

### Outgoing Area III commander says farewell

By Steve Davis  
Area III Public Affairs Office

**CAMP HUMPHREYS, REPUBLIC OF KOREA** – Well-known for brevity and determined insistence on giving credit to others rather than to himself, outgoing Area III commander Col. Mike Clay wasted no words during his farewell speech at the change of command June 1 at Freedom Field.

“I’m not going to list accomplishments,” said Clay. “Those of you who have been here know how far we have come in the past two years. Camp Humphreys is getting better every day and we are

maintaining what we have at our other installations. I'd like to thank my directors and their staffs for their outstanding support of our communities.”

Clay also thanked supporting organizations including the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, the Far East District Army Corps of Engineers, the Defense Commissary Agency, Korea Service Corps, Provost Marshal Office, the Republic of Korea Army Area III staff, the Criminal Investigation Division, Personnel Support Battalion, Contracting Center Korea, Training Support Activity-Korea, and finance, medical and dental professionals throughout Area III.

“I also appreciate the support we received from tenant unit commanders, to include our U.S. Air Force and Republic of Korea units,” said Clay. “Many thanks to the Pyeongtaek city government and to the Pyeongtaek and Wonju offices of the Korea National Police.”

Clay noted the support of local Korean business and community leaders.

“On behalf of all of us stationed here at Humphreys, I'd like to thank Mr. Kim of the K-6 Merchant's Association and Mr. Lee of the Korea Special Tourist Association for their efforts to protect this installation, for taking care of our Soldiers when they are in the 'ville, and for their friendship,” said Clay.

The outgoing commander also thanked the Installation Management Agency-Korea Region staff and personal friends for their support.

In a ceremony before the change of command ceremony, Clay presented the Department of the Army Commander's Award for Public service to Gina Frace, wife of Area III Command Sergeant Major Robert R. Frace. Mrs. Frace served as Area III's senior spouse during Clay's two-year unaccompanied tour.

“Mrs. Frace has had a positive impact on virtually every aspect of life for our Soldiers, civilians and family members,” said Clay. “I couldn't have gotten along without her.”

Before the change of command ceremony, Installation Management Agency-Korea Region Director Brig. Gen. John A. Macdonald decorated Clay with the Legion of Merit medal for “untiring

efforts” to improve the quality of life for all personnel in Area III. The award was presented on behalf of U.S. Forces Commander Gen. Leon LaPorte.